

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 910

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Charles Eugene Walker on the occasion of his retirement as executive director of the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in recognizing those educators who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Eugene Walker is one such person, who has served with probity for more than forty years as executive director of the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools and will embark upon a well-earned retirement this year; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary career as an education administrator, Dr. Walker has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community and this State; and

WHEREAS, Charles Walker was born on April 17, 1941, and was raised in western Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and a Master of Teaching degree from Southwestern State College in Weatherford, Oklahoma, in 1963 and 1967, respectively, and a Professional Certificate in Educational Administration from the University of Oklahoma in 1973; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Walker also holds three honorary doctoral degrees, having received a Doctor of Laws from Pensacola Christian College, Pensacola, Florida, in 1981; a Doctor of Divinity from Midwestern Baptist College, Pontiac, Michigan, in 1986; and a Doctor of Humane Letters from Bob Jones University, Greenville, South Carolina, in 2009; and

WHEREAS, his outstanding record as an educator includes service as a classroom teacher, principal, and superintendent in public schools for twelve years, and as principal of Trinity Christian School in Chattanooga from 1975 to 1978; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, Dr. Charles Walker became the first executive director of the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools (TACS), in which position he has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity throughout his four decades of service; and

WHEREAS, he was also highly effective in his role as executive director of the American Association of Christian Schools (AACS), a position he held for six years, as well as education director of AACS, in which capacity he served with distinction for fifteen years; and

WHEREAS, in 1983, Dr. Walker founded the *Journal for Christian Educators*, and, over the course of the next twenty-five years, authored numerous articles for the journal and ably served as its editor; in addition, he is the author of many staff development and school improvement manuals and produced a series of teacher training videos and online courses; and

WHEREAS, a popular public speaker who presents at conferences, conventions, and training sessions across America, Dr. Charles Walker is also author the of the books, *Financial Freedom and Prosperity for the Christian Family* and *The Parent-Teacher Conference: A Positive Approach to Parental Involvement*, as well as the co-author of *Study Right*, a popular study skills curriculum written for Christian school students in grades four through twelve; and the co-editor of the book, *A 21st Century Perspective of The Seven Laws of Teaching*, which was published in 2006; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Charles Walker is perhaps proudest of the love and support he shares with his wife of fifty-five years, Tonia Mae Walker, and they are the proud parents of Brian Walker, Tony Walker, and Cindy Ball and the doting grandparents of nine grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Walker is an active and devout member of Calvary Baptist Church in Red Bank, where he has served as a church deacon for fourteen years and taught Sunday School for more than thirty years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Walker exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, his steadfast commitment to educational excellence has helped member schools of the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools achieve outstanding academic success and produce some of the best and brightest students in our State and nation; and

WHEREAS, having attained the pinnacle of his profession, Dr. Walker is answering the tantalizing call of retirement; and

WHEREAS, his presence will most certainly be missed, and it is only proper that we commend his probity, acumen, and hard work as he retires from the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Charles Eugene Walker our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, as we pay tribute to his exemplary tenure as executive director of the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.